

Studies on *Schismatoglottideae* (Araceae) of Borneo LVII: *Bucephalandra filiformis* – a new species from Maligan, Sarawak, Malaysian Borneo

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ABSTRACT

Bucephalandra filiformis is described as a new species with uniquely stiff linear leaf blades, illustrated from living plants from the Maligan Range (Sarawak & Sabah, Malaysian Borneo), and inserted into the

most recent identification key to *Bucephalandra* species.

KEY WORDS

Rheophytes, sandstone, upper hill forest.

INTRODUCTION

Fieldwork in the Maligan Range (straddling the border of Sarawak & Sabah, Malaysian Borneo) resulted in collection of several puzzling rheophytic aroid species. One of these has now flowered in cultivation and proven to be a previously undiscovered species of *Bucephalandra*, unique in the genus by the stiff linear leaf blades. It is here described as *Bucephalandra filiformis* S. Y. Wong & P. C. Boyce, **sp. nov.** Recognition of this novelty takes *Bucephalandra* to 30 described species.

Dimensions in the descriptions are derived from fertile (i.e., mature) plants. Seedlings have overall smaller measurements.

Geological occurrences recorded in this paper are verified by the excellent geological map of Tate (2001).

Bucephalandra filiformis may be inserted in the key to *Bucephalandra* species presented in Wong & Boyce (2014a) as follows:

2. Appendix staminodes verrucate or brain-like **3**
– Appendix staminodes smooth **7 (“6”)**
3. Leaf blades linear, stiff
 ***Bucephalandra filiformis***
– Leaf blades never linear, usually not stiff;
if stiff then never linear
- 4, etc., = 5, etc., in Wong & Boyce (2014a).

Bucephalandra filiformis S. Y. Wong & P. C. Boyce, **sp. nov.** Type: Malaysian Borneo, Sarawak, Limbang, Lawas, Maligan Range,

Air Terjun Payeh Maga, below Camp 2, 04° 26' 15.1"N 115° 31' 27.9"E, 9 Sep 2014, P. C. Boyce *et al.* AR-4915 (holotype SAR – alcohol!; isotype: M – alcohol!). **Figure 1.**

Diagnosis

Bucephalandra filiformis is immediately distinguished from all other species of the genus *Bucephalandra* by the stiff linear leaf blades.

Description

Small solitary obligate rheophytic herbs to c. 8 cm tall. **Stem** initially erect, later shortly creeping and rooting with active portion sub-erect, c. 5 mm in diam.. **Leaves** up to c. 15 together, spreading to sub-erect; **petiole** 1–2 cm long × c. 2 mm in diam., dorsally narrowly and shallowly canaliculate, ventrally longitudinally ribbed, reddish brown, sheathing at extreme base, wings extended into a very narrowly triangular ligular portion 2–3.5 cm long, light red to brownish; **blade** linear, 7 – 11 cm long × 4 – 6 mm wide, stiff, semi-matte deep olive green adaxially, much paler greenish white with the blade margin finely deep green, base cuneate, apex acute (narrow leaf blades) to aristate (wider leaf blades), apiculate for 2 – 3 mm; **midrib** abaxially and adaxially prominent, adaxially concolorous with blade, abaxially dull red; **primary lateral veins** two, arising from leaf blade base and running along the margin; **interprimary veins** hardly differentiated, together totalling c. 15 per side, diverging at c. 30° and running to a marginal vein;